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Farm · Home · School



THE MACDONALD LASSIE



This Thing Called Leadership — What Is It?

A lot of people seem to have the idea that before their communities can do anything worth while they have to find a perfect leader — someone who will always know exactly what should be done, how to go about it, and how to get everyone's help with it. Unfortunately, very few of them have run across such a leader — so some go on waiting hopefully, and doing almost nothing.

They'll probably have a long time to wait. Real leaders do not spring up, full-grown, from the bowels of the earth. In fact, they don't even spring up half grown. Rare, indeed, is the community which inherits a leader with experience, ability and understanding from some other group. And the biggest contribution such a person can make is to help other people develop the qualities of leadership.

Fortunately, we don't need to wait for such a person to be wafted down from the skies to point the way. There isn't a single community in this country that hasn't people with some special ability. If they're helped to develop this ability, they will be leaders each in his particular field. And with a number of people taking the lead in different lines of work, the group can get a good program under way.

We're often too prone to look for all the qualities of leadership in one person. It's much better to be less exacting, and to recognize what we have. If the people of some ability are given a chance they will get the experience they need to improve their techniques, and the information they need to build better programs. And the group that has several such people coming along all the time is in a much better position than the one in which everyone looks to a single person for leadership in everything.

The ideal, of course, is where everyone sees where he fits in, and does his best to develop himself and the group along that line. Such a group will never fold

up when one person dies or moves away; there are plenty of others coming along to take his place.

The basic concept of leadership in our communities has changed a great deal in the last 25 years. A quarter century ago, people looked to the leader to start everything, and to pilot it through all the way. Now his job is not that at all; instead, it's to give a chance to other people to start things, and to learn from experience. Of course, the good leader is always at hand to give advice when it is needed, and to give a feeling of confidence to the person who's actually handling the job.

That's why young groups — not groups of young people necessarily, but those that have been formed in the last few years — are more likely to be active than the older ones. In many of the old ones the same officers are returned year after year, and they make most of the decisions themselves; so no one else is gaining any real experience. Younger groups are most likely to limit terms of office, and to set up committees so that a lot of people will be taking an active part in the program.

This serves several purposes. In the first place, it's possible to do more when everybody's at work. Then, people are more enthusiastic about things they, themselves, have planned. And in doing this work they gain the experience that will make them good candidates for office later on. A group that does a lot of work through committees should have little difficulty in developing the leadership ability of its members.

Our Cover Picture

Shorthorns, Herefords, Ayrshires, Holsteins — these are the calves that were entered in the junior events at the Shawville Fair in September. Club work is in high gear in this district, as this picture would indicate. Photo by the Editor.

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Into the Milk Can

by J. S. Cram



Shade and cool water add to comfort.

“WHEN milk is a good price I'm all right; but when it goes down I'm sunk,” says Stuart Armstrong, who farms some three miles out of Lachute, on the Lachute Road. Everything on the Armstrong farm is geared for dairying — and geared 'way up.

Of the total of 250 acres, 225 are in rotation, and 25 in rough pasture and woodlot. He follows a six year rotation which includes two years each of oats, hay and pasture. This means he has about 65 acres of oats a year; but he has to buy barley to mix with it.

His hay mixture consists of red clover, alsike and timothy, from which he gets an average return of about two tons per acre. Luckily, with his acreage in hay, he has plenty of mow space.

Stuart applies a couple of tons per acre of lime on the land that needs it. But he does not use commercial fertilizer, believing that the manure from his 70 head of Ayrshires should keep his land in shape.

About half his cattle are registered Ayrshires, and most of them are purebred. About 30 cows are milked the year round; and last year they averaged about 6,000 pounds a cow, including several young ones. This, with the uniformity in type, speaks well for the breeding program on this farm, where no females have been bought since 1925.

Stuart was born right on the farm, which has been in the family since his grandfather bought it in 1866. The dairy barn, which was built as far back as he can remember, has about four times as much glass as the usual barn; and to keep it warm in winter there are double windows. So in spite of its age it is brighter than most new barns; and with the windows open in the summer it is extremely fresh and airy.

Everything on this dairy farm is focussed on producing milk efficiently, from the breeding of the herd to the labor-saving gadgets that help to speed up the work and cut down the cost.



Some of the uniform Armstrong matrons.

It has almost all the gadgets, too — electric lights and milker, feed truck, manure truck, stanchions for 60 cows, box stalls and a mow capacity, with the other barns, of about 200 tons.

Besides the barn, there are numerous signs of ingenuity around the farm. The grain separator has an extra long grain spout, which elevates the oats into a big bin upstairs in the granary. For chopping it is necessary only to open a slot in the bin floor and let them flow down into the grinder, where they are mixed with bought barley.

Cuts Down Back-Aches

Farmers who have to sweat over getting their hay fork back to the front of the barn will appreciate the next idea. Stuart has a handy gully, down which he has strung a cable with a sliding weight. To this weight he has attached the ropes for returning the fork; so as soon as the load is dumped the fork automatically comes back.

Another good idea is found in the milk house, where an old ice cooler has been remade into an electric cooler, with foot-thick walls. The floor in this milk house is high, and there is a porch on it, so that practically no lift is needed to load the cans on a truck.

Still another idea has shown up in the ditching system Stuart has devised. Instead of the usual deep, narrow ditches, he had a bulldozer scoop out rounded depressions averaging 2½ feet deep, but about 25 feet wide,



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so it is possible to cultivate and seed right through them. This saves a lot of bother in working the land, and seems to be working very well, with the ditches growing quite a good crop of oats.

As fits a farm of this type, the house is right up-to-date, with automatic water supply, full plumbing, electric lights and planned kitchen. It is a pleasant place for a dairy farmer to relax, after the long day is done, with his family. That family includes Mrs. Armstrong, six-year-old George and a husky baby — John, who was born last May 1.

Naturally, Stuart can't expect much help on the farm from his family. But he manages to get along with one full time man, one part time and neighbour co-operation in harvesting.

On top of this, he is a member of the Montreal Milk Producers' Association, although at present he is shipping all his milk to a dairy in Lachute. And he is president of the St. Jerusalem Mutual Fire Insurance Association. This stems from his activities in the Lachute Road Farm Forum. He is also a past chairman of the Argenteuil Farm Forum Council and past chairman of the Quebec Farm Forum Association.

One thing is noticeable about the Armstrong farm. All the effort may be concentrated on milk production, but just about everything is done to make that production efficient and profitable.

Keeping Good Flavor in Milk

Dairymen can do much to minimize off flavors in milk during the winter even though they may not produce dairy products with as fine a flavor as in June.

Start in the barn and yard to get rid of undesirable milk flavors and odors. Keep the yard free of manure, and have it well drained. Clean the barn daily several hours before milking so dust will have a chance to settle. Dust is a source of much of the sediment in milk. Proper ventilation in the barn will eliminate strong animal and manure odors.

Clean the cows just before milking. Wipe off the teats and udder with a clean, warm, damp cloth. In addition to removing any other source of sediment, it will stimulate the let-down of milk.

Abnormalities in the physical condition of the cow may be another cause of bad flavors as well as a cause of irregular butterfat tests.

Feeds such as frozen or decayed silage produce off flavors in milk. Bad flavors can be minimized by feeding such feeds 4 to 6 hours before milking.

Milk may pick up off flavors also after it is produced. It will absorb undesirable flavors from oil, gasoline, kerosene and vegetables if stored near them. Operation of a gasoline engine in the separator room without proper exhaust outlet will give cream a gasoline flavor. Cream stored in a basement may absorb vegetable flavors. Damp

and poorly ventilated cellars are another source of off flavors.

A good rule to follow is never to use milk or cream containers for anything else. Watch for rusty cans. They cause metallic flavors.

To prevent off flavors from bacterial action, produce clean milk, handle it in clean utensils, cool it properly while on the farm and deliver it frequently. It's also important to protect milk and cream from both temperature and dust in transit.

Newfoundland Starts Forums

Newfoundland farmers joined their fellow-Canadians in Farm Forum when the 1950-51 National Farm Radio Forum season began on October 30. This announcement was made by Floyd Griesbach, National Farm Forum Secretary, when he returned from a recent trip to Newfoundland after attending a conference of the island's adult education workers. Arrangements were made to organize groups this year on an experimental basis, under the direction of Dr. Florence O'Neill, Director of Adult Education.

Since many Newfoundland farmers are also fishermen, their outlook on agriculture is somewhat different from that of straight farmers, Mr. Griesbach said. Last year the Farm Forum broadcasts were heard in Newfoundland but no attempt was made to organize listening groups.

"JOE BEAVER"

By Ed Nofziger



Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture

"You're not seeing a hillside fire. You're seeing more sediment in the reservoir."

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No Matter How It Started...

SOMETHING unusual happened at the Gaspé Short Course at Fort Haldimand this season; everything, no matter how it started, seemed to turn into a discussion. Sometimes the shift was made intentionally, but at other times it just happened, without anyone quite knowing how.

A speaker, launching a talk on small communities, asked a few questions about local situations. Suddenly he was no longer a speaker, but a discussion leader trying to see that everyone else had a chance to talk. A film "Who Will Teach Your Child?" was followed by small group discussions on questions relating this topic to Gaspé conditions; and when the groups reported their conclusions, another keen discussion followed.

A professor trying to cram a heavy course on dairy cattle into one hour found the group so interested in some of his early points that he had to discard his outline and enlarge on the questions they brought up. A visiting veterinary inspector became the centre of a session on animal health and for well over an hour he answered questions and commented on remarks made by local people. And a talk on organizing groups was scarcely launched before it had become a discussion, and then an actual meeting.

Things moved fast, and rarely according to plan. But no one was put out about the way things were going. The leaders were happy, because it was their job to see that people got the information they wanted. And the speakers were happy to find that other people took such a keen interest in their subjects.

It would have been a rare situation under any circumstances. It took speakers and leaders who understood why people broke in with questions and comments — that it was interest that impelled them to do it, and not poor manners. It also took a group of people who felt thoroughly at home with each other, and who accepted the speakers — some of whom arrived only half an hour before they started their sessions — as part of the group.

It was all the more amazing that it could have happened with this group, which varied in age from 11 to over 50. Some of the boys and girls had never before been away from home overnight, and many of them were complete strangers until they arrived at the opening of the four-day course. But by the end of the first day most of the group had forgotten their self-consciousness and had begun to enter wholeheartedly into things.

*Upper: The agronome points out Gaspé Village.
Lower: Folk dancing was good for group spirit.
Centre: Cattle judging class on nearby farm.*

*Upper: For serious sessions the group was ranged in a circle of which the leader formed a part.
Lower: Professor Moxley of Macdonald College uses photographs to illustrate points in cattle judging.*





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It's impossible to tell exactly what happened to bring about this unusual situation: but the way the group came together probably had something to do with it. The very first activity for the main group was a game in which everyone took part — a new game, in which all started as beginners, and everyone made his mistakes, leaders as well as students.

Then there was a discussion on the way the camp should operate, and the students set up an organization and named people to working committees. Everyone was given his chores, such as carrying wood and water, waiting on tables, cleaning up the dormitories and the hall and planning the evening program. And everyone willingly accepted the job he was given.

Kept Close Together

Everything possible was done to put students and leaders in close contact. The leaders slept in the same buildings as the students, ate at the same tables, and did chores side by side with the others, often under the orders of a student who was chairman of the committee; and when not actually leading a group the leaders took part in the activities as students. They were soon accepted as human beings and friends, who might know more about some special subject, but were pretty good scouts, just the same. So students were not afraid to interrupt them with a question, or to bring up some interesting local information.

In spite of this, the group spirit might easily have been broken down by as simple a thing as formal seating arrangements, which would have put one person up in front like a teacher, and all the others in straight rows like students in a classroom. This was avoided.

Instead, whenever the weather permitted everyone sat or lay on the ground, in a big circle, and the speaker remained comfortably seated while he launched his subject. When it was necessary to meet inside, the chairs were ranged in an open circle before the fireplace or the blackboard. That got away from schoolroom formality; everyone was in the front row, and could see everyone else. The leader appeared just as another person in the circle — the person responsible for starting off the subject, but not expected to do all the talking on it.

The leader did not face the group across a barrier of space — he was in the circle like everyone else, but he had the job of introducing a new subject and keeping it going until discussion arose — which wasn't usually long. Each time someone broke in with a remark or question the leader would take advantage of the chance to get more people into the discussion. In that way people learned, not just what the leader knew, but what everyone else knew, as well. And there was no chance of a speaker deluging them with a lot of material which did not interest them.

They See Value in Forums

"Organizing Farm Radio Forums is important enough for us to spend two weeks on it, whether it is spent at one time or over a period of a month or six weeks," was one of the conclusions reported by the Nova Scotia extension workers at their conference at Nappan.

Agricultural representatives should work more closely with farm forums, they decided. There were several goals which could be reached most effectively through forums.

First, through forums the farmer learns that he needs to work with others in order to help himself, so they are useful for getting people in a community to think and work together on their problems. They also broaden thinking, as they provide people with the opinions of others in their group and of other groups.

They also provide convenient channels through which the extension man can work. Since ideas and information can be put across to these groups as a whole, there is less need for individual calls, and the agricultural representative can make better use of his time. The forums can also be used as a sounding-board to test public reaction to suggestions that are put forward.

One of the greatest benefits of all is that they develop local leaders who can help in promoting agricultural improvement programs. The discussion type of program, the frequency of meeting and the stress on action projects give people with leadership ability a chance to develop quickly.

Says Farm Kids Are Lucky

"Children who are raised on farms have two great advantages over their contemporaries of the towns and cities," said Nova Scotia-born Cyrus Eaton, Cleveland industrialist, in opening the Central Nova Scotia Exhibition at Truro.

"First" said Mr. Eaton, "they learn the satisfaction of accomplishment of useful work from their chores, and then, they learn to know the beauty of the country from childhood's earliest hours. No greater boon could be given to the idle city boys and girls in the summertime than the privilege of spending a few weeks working on farms."

"It is inspiring to see the important part that the farm boys and girls have in this Central Nova Scotia Exhibition," continued Mr. Eaton, "for they are our farm leaders of the future and their participation in competitions here should serve to sharpen their ambition to excel in their honourable calling throughout their lives."

Dry Litter Is Essential

Clean, dry litter on the laying house floor is a key to successful egg production during the winter.

Bull Testing Plan for Beef

A new plan for testing the progeny of beef bulls will give Ontario beef breeders the opportunity of finding whether their herd sires are producing the kind of animals which will put the most money in their pockets. The new plan will be the first of its kind in Canada, according to Ontario's Minister of Agriculture, Hon. T. L. Kennedy. He said the test will be based on the three most important factors in producing quality beef on an economical basis — the rate of gain on feed, the economy of gain on feed and the carcass quality of the progeny of a herd-sire when slaughtered.

For the actual test, four steer calves, sired by the bull to be tested, must go into the test station, which will be located at the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph. Each calf in the group must be out of a different dam. The calves must be nominated before they are two months of age, must be weaned when six months of age and delivered to the test station within two weeks after weaning. The four calves in a test group must be delivered to the station within an 18 month period.

While at the test station calves will be fed individually on the same ration. This ration will be one which is approved by a committee nominated by the directors of the Ontario Beef Cattle Association. Each calf will be placed on a preliminary ration for a period of 28 days. Then all calves will be placed on the standard ration for a period of 196 days and will be marketed at the end of that period.

The marketings will all take place at the same plant and the carcasses will be graded and scored. All animals will remain the property of the breeder until marketed, and he will receive the gross returns from the sale of each calf less the cost of feed consumed by the animals during the test.

When all calves in the group have been marketed, a complete report of their performance during the test period will be forwarded to the breeder. This will include the number of days on feed, the gain in weight per day, the amount and cost of the feed consumed, and the cost of feed per pound of gain. In addition, the grade and score of the carcasses will be covered. From this data the breeder will be able to see whether or not he is getting animals who give him good beef economically.

Colonel Kennedy said this plan will be administered by the Advanced Registry Board for Beef Cattle under the chairmanship of Professor R. G. Knox, Head of the Animal Husbandry Department at the Ontario Agricultural College.

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Farm Radio Forum Topics

The following is a list of Farm Forum Topics for the coming broadcast season. The broadcast series promises to be interesting. If you live in a district that has no Farm Forum, why not contact your neighbours and start a group? For more information, write Jas. T. Davidson, Farm Forum Secretary, Box 237, Macdonald College, P.Q.

Series I — Farm Management

- Oct. 30 Can we farm on shorter hours?
- Nov. 6 Who should pay for soil conservation? Is soil conservation the responsibility of the farmer, the government, or both?
- Nov. 13 Forests — Slash or Save? The importance of forest conservation.
- Nov. 20 What the Forums Say. A special broadcast on a current topic. The National Summary of Farm Forum findings.

Series II — Health and Social Security

- Nov. 27 What's happened to the country doctor? How to get better health services for rural areas.
- Dec. 4 A pension for everyone. Labour is demanding pensions. What about the farmer?
- Dec. 11 Security for farm labour. Would more security for workers solve the farm labour problem?
- Dec. 18 What the Forums say.

Series III — Marketing

- Jan. 8 Wanted: New markets. How can we expand the farm market?
- Jan. 15 Marketing quality products. Should marketing boards be concerned with quality as well as price?
- Jan. 22 What sells our products? Is good merchandising the answer? What part does the middle-man play?
- Jan. 29 What the Forums say.

Series IV — International Problems

- Feb. 5 Should agricultural production be controlled? Does price support require production control, if so what about the world market?
- Feb. 12 Do we need a world food bank? Would this solve the food distribution problem?
- Feb. 19 What has I.F.A.P. accomplished? A review of the world farm organization's activities.
- Feb. 26 What the Forums say.

Series V — Education

- Mar. 5 Can the curriculum be improved for rural schools? What should we teach our farm children?
- Mar. 12 What kind of training for rural teachers? How can we attract more teachers to the country?

Central Agency to Buy Feed Urged by CFA

Problems attendant upon the marketing of coarse grains from western Canada in the eastern provinces were given the major attention at the semi-annual meeting of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture at Fredericton.

Both western and eastern delegates at the meeting in Fredericton recognized faults in the present system of marketing which might be remedied if some other system could be devised. In the public sessions of the Federation meeting, all three Ministers of Agriculture of the Maritime provinces stressed the need to seek further solution to the problem.

F. W. Walsh, Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Nova Scotia, leading discussion in the public meeting on the subject, said it was imperative that some means be devised of securing the necessary supplies of feed grains for the livestock industry in the eastern provinces without suffering the severe fluctuations of the past season. Livestock feeders, he said, never knew from day to day or week to week, what their feed was going to cost them.

Much of the opinion at the Fredericton meeting favoured the setting up of a co-operative central purchasing agency in eastern Canada to make bulk purchases of feed grains from the wheat board on behalf of the eastern livestock feeders. It was decided that this proposal should be further investigated.

Harman Heads Forum Board

Leonard Harman, Organization Manager for United Cooperatives of Ontario, has been appointed C.F.A. representative on the National Board of Farm Radio Forum, according to an announcement just released by the Forum's National office. The appointment was made at the recent Federation Conference in Moncton, N.B.

Subsequently, Mr. Harman was elected Chairman of the Board's National Executive, succeeding O. J. W. Shugg, who resigned to accept the position of Publicity Director for the Dairy Farmers of Canada.

Mr. Harman, who pioneered in study club work in Ontario which led to the development of Farm Radio Forum, was the first secretary for that province. During the 1942-43 season he served as National Secretary.

Trees Are A Crop

"Trees are a Crop", a 20-minute colour film on farm woodlots, is scheduled for the fall programs of the National Film Board's rural circuits. It was produced this year by the NFB with the co-operation of the New Brunswick Department of Lands and Mines. The film is available from the Macdonald College film library.

- Mar. 19 Pipe lines of information. Are our extension services adequate?
- Mar. 26 What the Forums say.

Silage Made in the Bale

Experiments have been carried out successfully on Houndhill Farm, Worsborough Bridge, Barnsley, England in making silage by baling. Nine acres of grass, mowed, baled, and built in a pit silo last May have been examined and found good. The grass shows no trace of mold, and has all the signs of adequate fermentation.

Two tractors with pick-up baler and bale leader were used. The pick-up baler carried a special set of gears which would tie a bale 18" to 20" long, on an 18" by 14" base, as against the usual 30" hay bale. This was necessary because of the extra weight of green crop. The aim was to produce an easily handled bale of about 30 lb. per cu. ft. density.

The bales were then collected by truck and built closely together in a pit, 9' wide by 21' long, cut on sloping ground. The back end of the pit was approximately 5' deep, and the front opened on the surface of the ground. No particular method was followed in building the bales, except for keeping them as close together as possible. Molasses was added from a watering-can to each layer of bales, but a sprinkler on the baler will be fitted for the next experiment. When the pit was filled it was about 4' above the level of the ground, and it was sealed with earth in the usual way.

From the experiment it is obvious that silage can be made by baling. The manufacture of silage of predictable composition by the setting of a machine now is a practicable possibility, and the preparation of a graph or table showing the best pressure for different types of crop should also be possible.

Ottawa Fields A Winner

What is probably the best all-around publication ever put out by the Dominion Department of Agriculture has just come from the King's Printer. It's an 80-page booklet entitled "Farming in Canada," and it handles its subject in a well-organized, factual manner. Because it deals with interesting material in a straightforward way it's interesting reading, too.

This booklet traces the development of Canadian agriculture from the formation of the soil, describes the types of farming in the various regions of Canada, and tells of the services which farmers may secure from governments and universities.

Apparently it is directed toward would-be settlers, to give them an idea of what this country has to offer agriculturally, and where to find what will suit them best. Text and illustrations combine to do that job well. In fact, they do it so well that there is likely to be a run on the stock for use as a text in our high schools. Nobody could read this booklet without coming away from it with a better idea of how our agriculture operates.



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Honour To The Land And The Farmer

Although the railway strike was settled before the Quebec Fair opened its gates, a number of exhibitors of livestock whom we are accustomed to see year after year couldn't make shipments by rail, and herds such as those of A. Lavallée, U. Deschamps, J. McGillvray, Wm. Bousquet and L. Doucet were conspicuous by their absence, nor did the herd of W. K. McLeod come out. However, even without these stalwarts, the livestock show can be graded as one of the best ever. Quality was particularly good in most classes, and numbers (120 horses, 430 dairy cattle, 140 sheep, over 100 hogs) were large.

Livestock judging was done in the newly-completed Agriculture Building which replaces the Coliseum which was burned down two winters ago. The new building was partly completed in time for last year's fair, and the events went on in it in spite of the fact that only about half the roof was on. However, it is in full operation now and is a welcome addition to the facilities of the fairgrounds. The lighting system is excellent, and there is room and to spare, in comfortable seats, for all the spectators who are ever likely to be in to watch the judging. On a sort of mezzanine floor are the exhibits of poultry, rabbits, etc., and there is ample space in the building for the displays of vegetables, honey, maple products, etc.

An innovation for Quebec was the livestock programme, over which someone had evidently laboured long.

Every animal entered in every class was listed by name, and by number, with the owner's name and the animal's sire and dam entered. As the handlers were provided with corresponding numbers, it was always possible to see just who was who and what was what, and it was easy for everyone to check the placing at all times.

The Industrial Building was filled again, but this year displays by local merchants predominated, the trade school displays which usually take up a good part of the building being absent. The Colonization Department, whose display is always a crowd-stopper, last year demonstrated the techniques of opening up new country. This year, it showed the transition from forest to farm land on a large scale model.

A still more elaborate project was the display of the Department of Agriculture, which must have taken weeks to prepare. It represented, in a scale model which stretched the full length of the Agriculture Building, the ideal farm, complete with all the buildings, livestock, fields of grain, corn and other crops, that one could think of. In the same building were the displays of the Federal Department of Agriculture, featuring poultry and dairy products, and of the Agricultural Education Service and the U.C.C. It is interesting to note that one hundred and twenty-six women's clubs were represented in the colourful displays of homecrafts entered by their members, and displayed on the balcony of this building.

Since so much time has elapsed between the closing of the Fair and the publication of this report (the fair came just too late for the story to be included in our last issue) it does not seem useful to give a complete listing of the major placings in the livestock classes, as we usually do. Suffice to say that Holsteins were out in the largest numbers with 132 head at the show, with the black Canadians next in numbers. The Ayrshire men had their usual strong entry, and the Jerseys came along with 70 head. In the horse show Gilbert Arnold had, as usual, the bulk of the entries, and took the majority of the top prizes. He was the only exhibitor with Clydes.

Brown Corporation, G. R. Gladu, Norbert Proulx and Sons, Albert and Alfred Pepin and Donat Giard all took championship ribbons home on their Holsteins, and the exhibits of the Jean Bosco Institute and of the Hotel Dieu at Quebec placed in many classes. In Ayrshires, Roland Pigeon, Beauchemin and Sons and Rouleau and Sons dominated the judging in the individual and in the



"Honour to the land and those who till it" was the theme of the Fair at Quebec this year. A general view of the fair grounds in front of the Main Building; part of the Midway overflowed into this part of the grounds.

group classes. Canadian championships went to the Deschambault Farm School, Alex Fournier and Albani Nichols.

J. L. Dion, following up his success with Jerseys at the Royal, took all the major ribbons in this breed, the special award of the Provincial Exposition, and a "Master Exhibitor" trophy presented by the Canadian Jersey Breeders' Association. E. A. Couture and J. Paul Dubuc were runners-up to Dion in the championship classes.

One new feature of the Fair was the proclaiming of a Honey King and a Maple Sugar King. Top winner in the honey classes was Claude Girard of Ste. Monique, and O. A. Fowler, who apparently has as good a technique with the maple trees as with livestock, is the provincial maple syrup king for at least a year. Suitable trophies have been provided by the Department of Trade and Commerce, and these were presented the two winners by Premier Duplessis at a banquet during Fair Week.



Quebec's new agricultural building is in full use, and the cattle parade, held for years on the racetrack, has been moved indoors.

Master Farmers, 1950



Thirteen proved to be a lucky number for one Quebec farmer this year: in the thirteenth season that the Agricultural Merit Competition was held in the Montreal District, François Xavier Rivest won the coveted gold medal in competition with fourteen other entrants all of whom, in virtue of

previous high placings in former competitions, had earned the right to compete for the grand prize.

Mr. Rivest's farm, which is at l'Assomption, scored a total of 913 points out of a possible 1000, but competition was keen, and the farm which was in second place, that of Frederic Coiteux of Repentigny, was only 10 points behind, and the third farm, that of Albert Daoust of St. Hermas, was a bare 2 points behind Coiteux's.

The new Commander's property consists of 200 acres, 180 of which is in cultivation. He has owned the farm since 1937, and in the competition in the 1940 season it was scored at 865½ points. It took ten years of steady improvement to bring it into first place, but Mr. Rivest knew how to go about the task. A well-planned rotation system, and generous fertilization, built up fertility to the point where he is averaging 45 to 50 bushels to the acre of mixed grain, 2 to 2½ tons of legume hay. Last year

he harvested 3000 pounds of clover seed and 100 tons of beets.

He is an Ayrshire man and his 40-head herd, with 23 cows milking, averages 10,000 pounds of milk, which he sells in Montreal. Other farm revenue comes from the sale of pure bred Ayrshires, and from his hog-raising operations.

Mr. and Mrs. Rivest have a family of seven sons and four daughters. The eldest son is a graduate of the Agricultural School of St. Barthelemy, and another son is attending the same school this year. Mr. Rivest is a worthy example of the competent, conscientious farmer who is the mainstay of rural prosperity in this province.

Honourary Awards

Every year the title of Commander of the Order of Agricultural Merit is conferred on a number of persons who, though not necessarily farmers in their own right, have nevertheless rendered outstanding service to agriculture in this province. Four persons were so honoured this year: the Honourable Patrice Tardif, Rene Trepanier, Dr. Jean Gregoire and Omer Milot.

Mr. Tardif, Minister without portfolio who acts as assistant or advisor to the Minister of Agriculture, has been identified with the farming profession all his life. A descendant of colonist forebears, he operates a farm of his own where in addition to the usual mixed farming he keeps a flock of turkeys and a herd of Shorthorns as sources of extra cash revenue. But his chief interest is in farm organizations: he took an active part in the establishment of the U.C.C. and was its official publicity agent in the southern part of the province for four years in its early days. He is a leader in all community affairs, prominent in co-operatives, Credit Unions, farm improvement programmes, young farmers' clubs, and the like, and has served as mayor of his parish for four years.

He was elected to the legislature in 1935, one of our youngest members of parliament. Re-elected in 1944, he was raised to Cabinet rank, seconded to the Department of Agriculture, a position which he still holds.

Rene Trepanier is well known to all Quebec farmers. A member of the staff at Oka, and a successful farmer as well, he has held a number of important posts in the agricultural world. He has been president of the Canadian Ayrshire Society, of the Pomological Society, of the Belgian Horse Breeders' Association. He is in constant demand as a judge of livestock at our important Canadian expositions, and as a breeder, his livestock have shown with marked success at most of our Eastern Canada shows, as well as at Chicago and at Indianapolis. As Deputy Minister of Agriculture, his knowledge of agricultural affairs and his wide experience as an executive are now at the disposal of Quebec farmers generally, who have, in the person of their Deputy Minister, another practical farmer who has been through the mill and who knows the farmers' problems at first hand.

Dr. Gregoire, Deputy Minister of Health, has a particular interest in maintaining the health of the rural sections of our population. Through his initiative, rural health units and clinics have been multiplied; he has been instrumental in having young doctors establish themselves in country practice and largely through his efforts nurses have been made available in regions where a doctor's services are not always easily secured. His interest in and his devotion to the farming classes have earned him this high honour.

Omer Milot is president of the Dairy Industry Commission, and is a farmer as well, on a 300 acre farm at Yamachiche which was carved out of the bush by his ancestors. At present, however, he leaves the actual running of the farm to his sons, and devotes the majority of his time to his other interests, all of which, however, have to do with agriculture. He is a director of the St. Maurice County Agricultural Society, President of the Quebec Co-operative Fédérée, President of the Flax Producers Co-operative, organizer and director for the past

18 years of the local U.C.C., he has recently taken over the chairmanship of the Dairy Industry Commission.

These awards were made at the traditional banquet offered by the Department of Agriculture during Quebec Fair Week, presided over by the Minister of Agriculture. The chief speaker of the evening was Premier Duplessis, who reiterated his conviction, evidently shared by his audience, that the prosperity of the province and of the whole country depends on the stability, permanency and self-sufficiency of farm life. He pointed out that the awards which had been passed out today, and in particular the gold medal won by Mr. Rivest, would not have been in existence in any state-controlled country where competition and private enterprise are not permitted. Under such a system, said Mr. Duplessis, ambition, improvement and progress cannot exist, and he pledged himself to see that private enterprise should continue to be the system under which our farming population would continue to work. The farmer is a country's bank, and without a prosperous farming community there can never be a prosperous country.

Storekeepers Go To School

Mr. T. Jourdain, marketing specialist for the Department of Agriculture, was the organizer of a unique travelling school which toured the larger centres of Quebec during September and October. The school, which was organized at the Botanical Gardens in Montreal, has as its object the spreading of information on methods of preparation, storage, and sale of fruits and vegetables and is supported by the Canadian Horticultural Council, the Federal and Provincial Departments of Agriculture, and the Quebec Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Dealers' Association.

The most interested of the "students" (anybody who is interested in the sale of fruits and vegetables) were the retail grocers in the towns and cities which were visited by the school. As one Magog merchant put it, "Every storekeeper should make a point of attending these demonstrations and lectures, for they give him something that will benefit both himself and his customers."

Sugar Beet Crop Is Good

Delivery of beets to the St. Hilaire refinery commenced at the end of September, with receipts limited to 5000 tons per day for the first two weeks of operation. Although there is storage space at the plant for 100,000 tons of roots, large stockpiles cannot be built up until colder weather has arrived, hence the restrictions in deliveries to the quantity that can be processed rapidly.

It is expected that the total harvest may be in the neighbourhood of 140,000 tons this year, thanks to the favourable season. If this is attained, the plant will make something like 40,000,000 pounds of sugar, by far the largest on record.



Minister of Agriculture Barré confers the decoration of Commander of the Order of Agricultural Merit on the Hon. Patrice Tardif, Minister Without Portfolio, and on his deputy, Rene Trepanier.

Shawville Keeps Its Fairgrounds Busy

In typical fall fair weather, the ninety-fourth Shawville Fair racked up another successful effort late in September. The junior show was particularly good this year, with more entries than usual, and in the regular classes of livestock and general farm products entries were well up to standard. The three dairy breeds were well represented, and in the beef cattle show, while Shorthorns dominated in numbers, there were two herds of Herefords and one of Aberdeen Angus on the grounds. The horse show, held as usual in the ring in front of the grandstand, was watched with keen interest by a large crowd of spectators, all obviously people who know and appreciate good horseflesh. A well-equipped Midway brought the fun of the fair and was well patronized throughout.

Beef Sale Tried Out

A new feature was the sale of beef steers, tried with good success for the first time this year. The sale was put on in front of the beef barns and attracted more buyers and spectators than had possibly been anticipated, for, as the photo indicates, space around the auctioneer was at a premium. Prices ranged from a top of 36½¢ down to 32¢, with a few of the tail-enders going for 25¢. The steers were sold according to the placing given them before the sale by judge L. H. Hamilton, and fourteen were offered. George Russell showed the top steer which went to Canada Packers.



Shawville's first fall fair sale of beef cattle is likely to become a yearly event.

Dairy Classes Strong

In the regular cattle classes, most of the usual herds were out, one exception being that of Lee Hodgins. Judging of the Holstein classes by R. J. Proulx, substituting at the last minute for Clarence Goodhue, brought the senior and grand championship in the bull classes to Brownlee and Hayes on Spring Bank Lochinvar Supreme, with reserve going to Arthur Kilgour's Mountain View Karl R.A. Both these had placed in the aged bull class.



McKechnie's champion, Ste. Anne Douglas 50th.

The junior bull calf Scottie Rag Apple Sovereign, for Edwin Pirie, was junior champion.

Nellie Greenbank Posch, after winning the class for aged cows in milk, went on to win the senior and grand championship for Walter Kilgour, and the reserve was shown by C. T. Brownlee and Son.

Wyman MacKechnie and Sons dominated the Ayrshire classes, taking the male championships on Ste. Anne Douglas (the only bull in his class) and the female championships on Bonniesshade Golden Girl. His Bonniesshade Douglas Royal was junior and reserve grand champion, after winning his class of senior bull calves.

Arthur Dagg had the reserve senior and grand champion cow in Burnholm Future Queen 2, and his Burnholm Firefly was made junior champion. He also had reserve junior champion in the bull classes, Burnholm Gayboy, while MacKechnie's Bonniesshade Delight was reserve junior female. Ayrshire judge was Roy Simmons of Finch, Ont.

Eighty-two Jerseys were placed by Tom Dickinson, manager of the Ottawa Dairy Farm, and M. W. Young's herd provided Wendybrook Donald, the senior and grand champion bull, Silver Spring Bertha's Duke for junior and reserve grand champion, and Lulabelle's Kitty for senior and grand champion female. Reserve senior and grand champion female was L. P. Horner's Silver Maple Sally's Alice, but Young had the junior and reserve junior ribbons on Elmarie Dainty Alice and Elmarie Doris.

Beef Breeds

Shorthorns were shown by A. A. Armstrong, Norval Wilson and Everett McDougall. Armstrong topped the judging, done by L. H. Hamilton, by taking seven first places and all male championships plus the junior female. Norval Wilson had the senior and grand champion female and four other firsts, with McDougall taking first in three classes.

There were a few Herefords, shown by J. D. Howard and Wes. Hamilton. Hamilton had the two top animals,

both male and female, with Howard showing the junior female champion. Charles Russell had the only herd of Angus; this is the first time this breed has been shown at Shawville.

Junior Activities

Thursday was pretty well devoted to the junior club programme, and a full programme it was. Seventy-eight juniors were on hand, and the way they handled themselves and their calves spoke volumes for the training they had received, and the hard work they themselves had put into the year's activities.

About forty came out for the showmanship contest, but many were eliminated early in the game. Of the remaining 15 who were placed, Edgar Russell of Shawville took the trophy. Closely followed by Irwin Hayes and Ronnie Russell, also from Shawville.

In the judging contest, where each contestant had to place a class of Ayrshire cows, one of Holstein cows, and one of Aberdeen Angus steers, with total score determining the standing, Irwin Hayes ranked first with a total score of 254 out of a possible 300. Eleven points behind came Franklin Kilgour, the winner of the *Bulletin* Scholarship for his work at the Sherbrooke show early in September. Doris Hayes and Marion Dagg, also from the home town, placed third and fourth.

Another feature was the inter-club competition when the two best calves from any one club came out before the judge. Shawville again came out on top with Ayrshire calves shown by Marion Dagg and Edgar Russell. Following in order came Sheenboro, Rupert, Quyon, Calumet Island and Campbell's Bay clubs.

There were also the conformation classes for each breed of calf; twenty Holsteins, led by that of Ellard McBane, eight Ayrshires topped by Edgar Russell's entry, fourteen Shorthorns led by Lee Stewart's, and five Here-

fords with George Perrault's calf topping the class. Junior judging was handled by Alex Bothwell, the popular Argenteuil County agronomer.

Feed Grain Prices Rated Top Problem

Marketing, soil conservation, farm management and transportation were discussed at a conference of provincial ministers of agriculture and their deputies. At what was termed the most important meeting on agriculture for some years, many individual problems were brought up, but they all seemed to lead back to these basic ones.

Various phases of the marketing problem covered in the first day of the conference ranged from selling the apple and potato crops to the handling of feed grains to the satisfaction of both Eastern and Western farmers. The most pressing problem seemed to be to find ways of stabilizing the price livestock men had to pay for feed grains so they could do some effective planning of their future production programs. Added to this was the old bugbear of having the grains in position so shortages would not occur during winter.

The conference, however, went on record as heartily approving the Federal Freight Assistance policy now in effect and expressed the hope this policy would continue.

When it came to soil conservation, the Ministers were agreed on the need of an overall or national program in this field, but it was repeatedly emphasized the program must be a practical one which could be demonstrated right on the farm. They added there was need for the Departments of Agriculture to give leadership in developing such a policy rather than leaving it to other agencies who did not understand the problems of agriculture. They all felt the first step is to build a realization and understanding that our soil is our most important resource and the planning for its best use is the future of our agriculture.

Allied to soil conservation was another important topic, Farm Management, and all Ministers were agreed on the necessity of expanding their work in this field. It would have to be of a practical nature however, and tied in with proper land use. All those present felt this first conference of its kind since 1933 was very useful. Ontario's Minister of Agriculture, Hon. T. L. Kennedy, summed it up by saying it was a revelation to everyone present to hear what was being done elsewhere.

Co-op Business Booming

Co-operative business in Canada is getting bigger with the years along with an increasing membership in co-operative organizations. Total business last year exceeded a record one billion dollars, an increase of 200 million dollars over 1948, with membership up 60,668.



Edgar Russell, his Showmanship Trophy, his calf, and his grin of triumph.

Strippings

by Gordon W. Geddes

Last night brought our first frost (Sept. 16). This does not give us a very long frost-free period as the spring frosts were quite late. A local farmer who writes down such things says that last year the first fall frost was on Sept. 26. Of course we had such a mild winter that we had a lot of cooler weather ("temperature below seasonal values" as the weather report puts it) coming in order to balance our temperature account for the year. However, one would think we might have balanced it and have enough to the good to give us some Indian summer to take the chill out of our bones before winter sets in. If so it will be quite welcome as we are about a month behind with our work.

Our alibi for being in that state must be that we had too much work to do. With the repairs on the barn, a larger hay crop to harvest, harvesting rye and timothy seed, plowing and harrowing for more rye, more of our own grain left to get to the mill for grinding and more hogs to feed it to and take care of, the time seems to have slipped by on us. At least we cannot complain about our crops in spite of the cold summer. Hay was very good, pastures have been good though the weather can't take all the credit for that as we have done a lot to help it out. Turnips we can see will be good, potatoes we rather expect may be lighter but they are an unimportant crop with us and the best one to be light. Grain should be good if we can get it harvested but we'll have to wait a few days to be sure about that. It is now about a month later than we finished threshing last year and we are only one-third done the job. Perhaps we can finish to-morrow.

The weather has certainly been tough for that operation as lots of grain has been cut waiting for the thresher for three weeks. Our own would have been but we were waiting to try the swather and the pick-up on the combine. However the pickup did not

arrive but the bad weather did. By the time it cleared off the grain was ready for straight combining but the combine couldn't get to us for sometime. The upshot was that we hired a binder for fear a wind might put it where we couldn't get it with anything. Then came a dry spell with the thresher running until eleven or twelve o'clock at night trying to catch up.

Finally came the day when they

were to do ours. The operator said they would thresh until it was done so we arranged for some spare men to come at night to relieve part of the gang and a man to drive a car around to furnish light for loading. Ivan and I stacked three loads for the night work too. But we were only able to thresh till noon. Then we got several wet days but on Sunday came some sun and a wind which dried the stooks



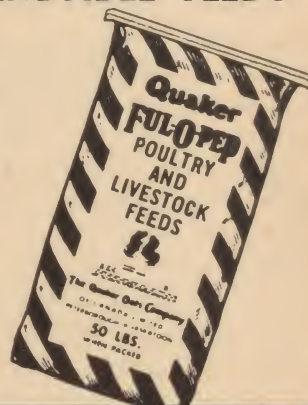
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OCTOBER 1950

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on one end. I told Ivan we only needed the wind to change to dry the other end and we could thresh. And that was just what it did for it blew all night and the next morning from the opposite direction. Right after dinner we started the thresher and finished at a quarter past nine last night. Everyone thought it would be raining again to-day and sure enough it was. It is always great to have a crew of farmers on such an occasion as they all know how important it is to get done before a storm. If we had had a gang of union men leaning on their forks the job would not have been finished. As it is we have a lot of good dry grain and straw stored away in a very bad season and certainly were lucky. One neighbour shut down his corn-cutter and came with his helpers to complete our gang. Another wouldn't even stop if we changed work with him.

We gave up trying to cut the straw but Ivan and I found quite a difference. Last year I was on the straw alone and not there all the time. This year Ivan and I were both on it and had a dirty job of it. We filled the floor a lot fuller and had to blow the last in a pile outside. That won't be all the difference either as we shall not have as good bedding this year and the manure will be a lot harder to handle. Those near us who used the combine are finding picking up the straw quite a job but we had the idea it would be not too hard to get and by putting it through the cutter it would go into the barn quite easily and we would have good bedding. Of course the kind of weather we have had would make it hard to get even straw but we certainly won't be trying it out this year.

Feeding coarse feed or bulky feed to hogs during their finishing period is supposed to help the grade somewhat but it cannot do it all. We have never fed so much coarse oats to hogs as we have this summer. We found we had a lot left and not so much barley on hand as we usually try to have when it takes a sudden jump. So we bore down harder on the oats though

we still had quite a few left when we threshed. We have just shipped the poorest grading lot we ever shipped. There were two B1's and a C in the three. That is the first C we ever shipped. But they were just some we bought when we needed some big feeder hogs quick to keep from wasting skim milk. So oats cannot do it all. Incidentally I was reading to-night of an experiment where gilts proved to give better bacon than barrows. The old-timers said the barrows grew the fastest so it may be so as slowing the growth seems to mean more lean meat. And the harder the farmer works the leaner he gets.

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◉ Daily Reminder ◉

OCTOBER 1950

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THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES SECTION

*Devoted to the activities of the Quebec Institutes
and to matters of interest to them*

A Rural Consumer Speaks

The national meetings of the Canadian Association of Consumers were held in Toronto, Sept. 20-21. The Q.W.I. Secretary attended as rural representative for Quebec and reports a greater awareness being shown by the more urban representatives of the necessity of seeing all sides of the picture when discussing food problems. This may be in part that each province is entitled to one rural representative on the provincial board, who consistently presents the rural consumer's viewpoint and also to the efficient service rendered on the national board by Mrs. Hugh Summers, Fonthill, Ont., 1st vice-president of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada and Chairman of the C.A.C. Agricultural Committee. Her report, given at the recent meetings was so full of interest to farm women that her permission was secured to publish it in the *Journal*. This is as follows:

"First let me assure you that I am qualified to speak of things agricultural because I have lived on a farm all my life and I come from a long line of farmers. So in dealing with agricultural matters I am on familiar ground.

"As people from town and city drive through our pleasant countryside there is a tendency for them to think of a farmer's existence as a very happy one, spent in these pleasant surroundings, and to think that all farmers must be well-to-do in order to have such fine houses. Let us lift the curtain and go behind the scenes.

"In the first place, several generations have worked the farms, so that today there are fine substantial buildings on most of our farms. But on many the soil is depleted because of long cropping without proper feeding of the soil and many farmers are carrying a heavy debt.

"On every hand we hear complaints of the high cost of food and it is true food has increased in price. Some of our newspapers and periodicals delight to quote prices of butter, eggs, beef and chickens back in the 1890's when eggs, for instance, were 10 cents a dozen, but they neglect to say that a brick layer, laying at least 1200 bricks a day, drew pay of 75 cents to \$1.00 a day. Just 60 years ago my grandfather built his new brick house and that is what the bricklayers were paid.

"In the past, farming was done hit or miss, and because farmers did without labour saving devices and many comforts and conveniences they kept their needs at a minimum and were able to live on a small income. Happily for the farmer that day is to some extent past, but the up-to-date machinery and equipment that is re-

quired today adds to the cost of food. For farmers are now taking into account the costs that accrue in producing a crop or stock. They now figure interest on their capital investment in land, buildings, cattle, horses, swine, and on their costly machinery. To this add depreciation, taxes, power and hired help. When all this totalled up they are appalled at the small wage per hour they receive for their work and management. In fact the poorest labourer would sneer at their small pay.

"National and Provincial governments in the Economics Division of their Departments of Agriculture, are busy working out statistics on all the different phases of agriculture. These later statistics are not ready for publication but I did obtain a report published in 1947 and figures given in this report showed that owners of the farms under survey, with a capital investment of \$25,000 to \$28,000 had average earnings for themselves of \$1,500. That is after interest on his investment and other expenses are deducted, this is his net income. In these calculations all produce raised for the farmer and used in the home was charged at local prices in the \$1,500 income. In compiling farm statistics it has been agreed that a 60 hour week be used. This is far below the farm week in our municipality. However, if we use this 60 hour week figures show us that the farm owner is earning less than 50 cents an hour. Present day figures would not be much different for higher wages would cancel out the higher prices received.

"In 1920, wheat in Ontario was selling for \$1.93 a bushel. It is now selling for around \$1.70, yet a binder which was bought for \$125 in 1920 sells today for about \$400. Or putting it another way, in 1920 only 65 bushels of wheat were needed to buy a binder whereas today 230 bushels of wheat are required to buy a similar binder.

"Perhaps listening to figures being quoted is boring but I believe it is important for consumers to have an understanding of the cost of equipment and of production costs of food produced on our Canadian farms. And I think all fair minded people are willing that farmers should have fair returns for their hard work.

"High wages in industry are attracting not only workers who would ordinarily be content to work on farms but are wooing farmers from their farms. Within a radius of a mile from my home I can count six farms where the owners are living in the farm homes but have abandoned farming for work in factories because of high

wages there. It may be several years before this trend to industrial work on the part of farmers is felt but I can assure you if it continues at the present rate food will be even more costly.

"One project not so old in years that has proved a boon to farm folks is the co-operative. There are many more than 100 of these operating in Ontario and they are helping to lower the cost of all these things the farmer must buy, also they sell the products of the farm to good advantage. Whether larger, better and more numerous co-operatives will be a solution to some of the farmer's problems remains to be seen. However, they will not solve all his problems for these include farm labour which is at such a low ebb that inexperienced workers from Europe and our own misfits make up the bulk of available farm workers. This lack of good experienced farm help is due, as I pointed out before, to a 40 or 44 hour week in industry and wages of \$1.25 to \$4 per hour. Other difficulties which beset the farmer are the numerous diseases of plant and beast, soil depletion and the heavy growth of weeds. Both Dominion and Provincial Govern-

ments are giving valuable assistance with these latter difficulties and so are making a worthwhile contribution to better production on our Canadian farms. Furthermore the local, provincial, national and international farm organizations are speaking with a strong voice on behalf of farm folk.

"In this report I have tried to present some facts and figures on farm production on our Canadian farms so that consumers may have a better understanding of the cost of food production and the effort that the farmer and his family put forth to produce this nation's food. And I would recommend that consumers should be thoroughly conversant with cost of production, transportation and selling costs before urging government ceilings on food, because such action would be a very doubtful benefit if more farmers cut production in essential foods. Each consumer has her own responsibility in promoting good relations between consumers and farmers and I hope this report may be a step in that direction, and let us remember that Dominion statistics show that one hour wage will today buy more food than at any time since 1938.

Canadians Provided Their Birthday Cake

Such is the heading on a clipping from an English newspaper, which has been received by the South Newport W. I. In this clipping is shown the picture of a group of happy children with their smiling mothers, members of the Gunness and Burringham W.I., England. On the table in front of them is a beautifully decorated cake to celebrate their 11th birthday and the picture shows the president, Mrs. E. M. Ayre, as she makes the first cut. No wonder there is an expectant look on all faces. Unfortunately the picture is not clear enough to be reproduced here, but we are glad to give the story that accompanies it, and which once again, reveals the warm friendships that have developed between W.I. groups in both countries.

"During the war, Mrs. L. Foster Thornton of the Manor House, Burringham met two Canadian army captains, Alfred and John Robinson. She introduced them to a friend of hers, Mrs. C. Davenport of Gunness, who adopted them for their stay in England. On their return home the Robinsons asked that if ever their friends should visit Canada they were to be sure to look them up. And so, when in 1949 Mrs. Thornton did visit a friend in Canada, she went to Quebec to stay with Mr. Alfred Robinson and his family. While there she went to a meeting of the South Newport W.I. and being a visitor from England was asked to talk about rationing and shortages. As a result, the South Newport W.I. formed yet another small link between the two countries by "adopting" the Gunness and Burringham Institute. They had already sent one parcel from Canada when yet another one arrived — full of ingredients to make the 11th birthday cake for the Gunness and Burringham W.I. Another

gift was received from the oldest member of the Canadian W.I. Mrs. Cora Austin, who is over 90, sent a parcel of kettle-holders, crocheted and quilted by herself. Members and children were entertained at the party and games and dancing followed the tea.

Change In Q.W.I. Staff



Q.W.I. members from Gaspé to Pontiac will be sorry to hear that Miss E. M. Birch has left the staff of that organization. At the end of September she returned to her native province of British Columbia where she has a position as Handicraft Instructor in the Government Hospital at Nanaimo. Miss

Birch made many warm friends during her stay with the Q.W.I., as her work took her to all parts of the province, and their regret at her departure will be coupled with good wishes for success in her new field of service.

Her place has been filled by Miss Ida Bruneau, Westmount, a graduate of this year's Handicraft Course at Macdonald College. Miss Bruneau commenced her duties the middle of September and is carrying out all assignments made by Miss Birch so there will be no break in the work in Handicrafts. Branches are asked to send in their requests as usual, always bearing in mind that the schedule is completely filled until June 1951.

Through The Gaspé Peninsula With Miss Birch



A pictorial record of a busy season spent with the branches in Gaspé and Bonaventure Counties.

1. The New Carlisle Juniors were the first visited. Weaving was taught here, as these ambitious girls have a loom of their own.
2. The class in leatherwork at Marcil. This picture was taken at night in their hall, as only evening classes were held here.
3. A new branch, Black Cape, not one year old yet, had felt and shell work for their choice.
4. Rug-making again, this time at L'Anse aux Cousins, for some of the members. The balance took felt, but the whole group is shown in this picture. Note the hats worn by the girls in the front row, which they made themselves from a pattern designed by Miss Birch.

5. Weaving again, this time at Port Daniel. Mrs. C. E. Dow, a former Q. W.I. President and past president of the F.W.I.C., who is a member of this branch, is seen at left of back row. Another familiar face to Institute members is that of Mrs. H. H. Mortimer, past Provincial convenor of Citizenship at left of front row.
6. York displays samples of their work in rug-making, the course chosen here. This picture was also taken in their hall at the close of the evening class.
7. Loading pulpwood at Black Cape. A typical scene along the coast snapped by Miss Birch in one of the few free periods between sessions.

The picture of the Restigouche branch will appear in the next issue, if it is good.

The Month With The W.I.

"October's bright blue weather", is now with us, such a lovely time of the year. Although that is the month you will be reading this it is a record of the summer activities when many branches take a holiday so we have heard from only 12 counties. Next month will see them all swinging back into action so let's hear from every one, and before the end of the month, *please*.

Argenteuil: Frontier W.I. reports an interesting meeting in Stone Hall, Cushing, when Miss M. Douglas gave a talk on her journey from India and Ceylon, via Hong Kong and Port Alberni, B.C. She also showed pictures she had taken covering the trip. Jerusalem-Bethany had as their rollcall "A Health Law I should like to see passed". The County president, Mrs. C. W. P. Baugh, was a guest.

Bonaventure: Black Cape held a parcel post sale and garden party which added \$51.65 to the treasury. Marcil purchased a hot plate for the local hall. Members of this branch enjoyed the course in leather craft under the direction of Miss Birch. A letter from the mother of their Austrian adoptee was read. New Richmond realized

\$31 from an afternoon tea and sale. An informative paper on "Diabetes" was read by the convenor of Welfare and Health. Port Daniel completed plans for an afternoon tea and sale, also distributed health literature. Restigouche had a course in leathercraft by Miss Birch and discussed plans for a field day. Shigawake realized the marvellous sum of \$92.34 from a food sale and dance. \$1 per member was voted to the Q.W.I. Service Fund, \$10 to School Fair prizes and \$5 to the Salvation Army.

Chat-Huntingdon: Aubrey-Riverfield and Howick enjoyed their annual picnic together. At Dundee the district agronomist spoke on "The Kitchen Garden". A vegetable and flower seed contest was well supported. Due to inclement weather the Franklin Centre picnic was held indoors. Mrs. George Goldie told of her visit to St. Annes Military Hospital. A silver cup was donated to the boy or girl winning the most points at the Dancing Competition held in Ormstown. Howick made arrangements for their school Fair. A splendid report on the recent short course at Macdonald College was given by Mrs. Bernhardt, who also gave a demonstration on belt making. Huntingdon

served dinners at their two day fair, with the proceeds donated to the Barrie Memorial Hospital. Much information was gained from Dr. Sutton's talk. Ormstown also had Dr. Sutton as their guest speaker, and is buying a dish washer for the new hospital. Much canning of vegetables and fruits for the cafeteria at their High School has been done. A member modelled several dresses and coats with accessories.

Compton: Brookbury catered at an auction and the proceeds were sent to the Winnipeg Relief. The sick were also remembered. Canterbury held a Mother and Daughter Banquet and had their own community and Brookbury W.I. as guests. A "Question Box" was an enjoyable feature of the gathering. East Clifton entertained the County President and Secretary, made their final payment on the hospital project, prepared posters on Denmark as their exhibit at the Cookshire fair, and gave several prizes. South Newport had as their rollcall, "How to best impress the Public on W.I. Work". This branch has had a course in Rug-making from Miss Birch. A gift was presented to a member.

Gatineau: Eardley held a grandmother's meeting, having as their rollcall, "My Favourite Song". Prizes were given to the "Grandmother having the youngest grandchild and another having the shortest name. A contest, "Conveniences our grandmothers missed", vividly showed the contrast between old and new methods of housework. The "tea prize" brought in \$1.40 for the funds. This branch awarded prizes at the Quyon Agricultural Fair for articles made and shown by boys and girls 8 to 14 years of age. Wright held their annual picnic with 35 guests present. A fine programme of sports was enjoyed with prizes given by the W.I. At the brief business meeting preceding the picnic, the branch voted to discontinue sponsoring the European child, feeling that the funds are now needed for home projects. Food was sent to a needy family and help given to a member who suffered in a fire. The roll call was "What I have learned through W.I."

Pontiac: Beech Grove had as their rollcall, "My Favourite Radio Programme". A guessing contest was held and prize money donated for children's display at Quyon Fall Fair. Bristol Busy Bees heard a paper on Polio and a box was sent to a sick member. The rollcall was "Do's and Dont's for a Sick Room". Clarendon had an instructive talk on the benefits of the Pontiac Health Unit. This branch entertained the Glen Ogilvie W.I., Ont. Mrs. Tompkins of Ogilvie spoke on "The Need of Women on the Jury". Elmside sent groceries to two needy families. A paper, "How to Avoid Polio Panic", and "Safety Rules for Children in Swimming" was heard. Eight sick calls are reported and a box of fruit sent to a member in the hospital. A member was presented with a life membership and an electric iron in appreciation of her loyalty to the W.I. Fort Coulonge observed,



Canterbury W.I. with the quilt that netted them \$34.57.

"Grandmothers' Day" with a good attendance. The eldest guest of honour, a great grandmother 83 years of age, received the first prize, the second prize going to the youngest grandmother. Quyon held an afternoon tea. A cash donation was given to Quyon Fall Fair, also special prizes for the School Fair. Wyman mourns the loss of its oldest member through death, Mrs. J. W. Thompson, 85 years of age, mother of Miss Abbie Pritchard. (Through her long service to the Q.W.I. in many responsible positions, Miss Pritchard is well known throughout the province and members everywhere join in expressing their sympathy.) The Wyman W.I., together with Elmside branch, were entertained by the Arnprior W.I., Ont. The group was taken through Kenwood Mills where they were shown through in small parties. From there they went to the Canadian Booth Plant where, after touring the plant, they were served refreshments. One in each branch received a flatware cabinet, a gift from Mayor Simpson of Arnprior. In another "get-together" Wyman entertained Quyon branch when a Singer Sewing Machine Demonstration was given.

Quebec: Valcartier made plans for their annual bazaar which will be held on the picnic grounds, with a dance at the lodge after. A film, "What we know about Cancer" was shown and Mrs. D. Kidd, Welfare & Health Convenor, who was in charge of the programme, gave a short talk. Plans were made to fence and clean the W.I. grounds. A game was given a little boy in the hospital.

Richmond: Cleveland reports a successful ice cream social, also the completion of a quilt for Manitoba W.I. Flood Relief. At Dennison's Mills the sick were remembered with sunshine baskets and quilt blocks were handed in. Gore, too, completed a quilt. A box of used clothing was sent to Manitoba W.I. Relief. Melbourne Ridge, along with routine business, held a quiz with prizes given by the convenor of Welfare and Health. Shipton had an enjoyable guessing contest and a Flower Show with prizes. A donation was voted to Dr. Stevenson's Field Day. Spooner's Pond had a talk on "Polio" by a trained

nurse, and held a food sale. Windsor Mills had a home-made candy contest for junior girls, with prizes, and sent sunshine baskets to sick children. Richmond Juniors had a sale of plastic ware and a white elephant sale.

Shefford: Granby Hill made five quilts which were sent to the Red Cross. A donation of print was received. Each member is to make an article for the fall sale. The rollcall was "Name an article that should be in the first aid kit". At South Roxton the branch convenor of Welfare and Health read an interesting paper entitled "You'll be young a long time". A resolution re the Protestant Women's Jail, Montreal, was signed by the members. Warden held a successful food sale which netted \$41. The sale of wood afghans brought \$40. A display of grandmother's quilt blocks and jewelry was featured and a contest, "What do you know about the W.I.?"

Sherbrooke: August finds all branches of this county busy with preparations for their annual booth at the Sherbrooke Fair, sponsored by Sherbrooke Machinery. The booth serves the dual purpose of publicizing W.I. and offering the opportunity to the members of making extra pin money. Daily dozens of visitors to the Fair stop to admire and purchase the various articles on display and at the same time make inquiries as to the work and purposes of the W.I. Ascot, at a largely attended meeting, made plans for their day at the W.I. booth. A pleasant feature was the presentation of a gift to Mrs. Frank Mitchell, a valued member who was observing her 70th birthday, also a beautiful bouquet was given Mrs. Mitchell by little Miss Shirley Robinson. Belvidere made four quilts from Red Cross material to be sent to Manitoba W.I. Relief. Articles completed and donated by members to the W.I. booth were brought in. Brompton Road put on a splendid display of flowers for their annual flower show, their hall became a bower of beauty. Other items from their report are: a display of articles made from bags, \$6 voted to the School Fair, a \$10 box to send to a lady in England, a box to veteran in Montreal,

gifts and cards to shut-ins. Members remembered with cards on their birthday, and to conclude a busy meeting, a contest was held. Cherry River branch had a sale of both useful and pretty aprons with prizes given. Milby, at an evening meeting, had as rollcall, "A Health law I should like to see passed". Plans for their day at the W.I. booth were completed. \$5 was donated to the School Fair and \$5 to the Girl Guides. Two contests were arranged by the Convenor of Welfare and Health, Mrs. C. Leonard.

Stanstead: Dixville laid special emphasis on "Child Health", and the County Health Unit clinic was held in their school. Stanstead North held a 25th wedding anniversary for a member. An interesting book review was given at their meeting. Tomifobia had as guest speaker Mr. Roberge, M.P. whose subject was "Laws in Quebec". Preparations for the fair were made. A happy feature of the meeting was the presentation of a silver cake plate to the president in honour of her 25th wedding anniversary. Way's Mills presented a gift to a young bride. The Home Economics Convenor displayed some pillow slips that were over 100 years old. Screens have been provided for a needy family.

Vaudreuil: Cavagnal sent two food parcels overseas, and voted \$64.50 as prize money for the annual School Fair. The meeting featured a hobby show and tea. 63 articles were exhibited including weaving, leatherwork, felt work, crocheting, knitting, tatting, painting and shellwork. 12 articles were chosen to be displayed at the County Fair.

The Quebec Women's Institutes won honourable mention with a book prize, in the international essay contest on the subject, "The Countrywoman's Day", sponsored by the Associated Country Women of the World. At the time the A.C.W.W. decided upon this contest, Mrs. Carlton Smith, one of the vice-presidents of that organization, offered a prize for the best essay from any constituent society in the final competition. Since then the A.C.W.W. Executive accepted a recommendation, made by the committee, that second and third prizes be given to the value of 15£ and 10£ respectively. Mrs. Meier (vice-president Switzerland) and Mrs. Putland (Netherlands) Chairman A.C.W.W. Press and Publicity Subcommittee, offered copies of their recently published travel books for the honourable mention awards. The results of this international contest were announced at the Copenhagen Conference and a letter from Mrs. Thomson states Canada won two honourable mentions in the 14 awards made, one of these she was proud to say came to Quebec, Mrs. A. Graham, Grenville, a member of the Frontier W.I., recipient. The awards were presented by Mrs. Raymond Sayre, U.S.A., president of the A.C.W.W., at "Danes' Day", at the convention and the Q.W.I. shares Mrs. Thomson's pride that this honour should come to one of its members.



A group of Milby grandmothers who were present at the "Grandmothers' Day" meeting.



THE COLLEGE PAGE

College Entertains Indiana Farmers

In its familiar role of host to groups of visiting farmers, Macdonald College received last month one of the largest delegations of non-Canadian visitors we have ever entertained. Some three hundred members of the Indiana Farm Bureau arrived for a short visit to the campus and the farm as part of a trip organized by the bureau for its members, a trip which took them on a two-week tour of eastern Canada and the United States.

Their trip took them through the farmlands of Ontario, to Montreal, then to Macdonald College and later to Oka, where they enjoyed the hospitality of the Trappist Fathers. From there they went on to Quebec by special train, and from Quebec they went down the St. Lawrence and up the famous Saguenay River to see some of the beauty spots of Quebec. From there their trip took them down through the New England States, to Boston, Cleveland, and finally home to Indianapolis.



Three hundred farmers from Indiana visited the College in September; they are being welcomed on the front steps by members of the Field Day Committee.

Getting The Session Started

Registration Day is the culmination of all the summer's work, insofar as the administrative offices of the College are concerned. On that day we meet in the flesh all the students with whom we have been exchanging letters, and what has been to this point only a series of names on lists now becomes a group of personalities with whom we are to have dealings during the next two, three or four years. The halls and corridors become alive again, the residence windows blaze with lights and the dietitian's orders for supplies soar. On the campus friendships are being renewed, freshmen and freshettes are trying to find their way around, senior students are making their plans for the coming session — in a word, the new session is underway.

It is taken for granted that students come to college to learn; and the Faculty sees to it that they are given every opportunity to acquire the information and techniques that they need to complete their education and enable them to take their place in the world. But there is more to a college education than the mere acquiring of knowledge; and often the success that a college graduate achieves in later life, or as it might be better put, the

opportunity that he has to make his own success, comes as a result of his participation in activities outside of the classroom. The ability to co-operate, to get along well with others, to organize and manage, is acquired in the daily contacts with other students.

The extra-curricular activities at Macdonald are planned and directed by the students themselves, and there is something for every taste: sports, literary activities, music, discussion, social activities of all sorts.

At the beginning of the season, attention focusses on football. The Mac team, under the capable direction of the new Director of Athletics, John Meagher, is entered in the Lower St. Lawrence Conference, which includes the University of Ottawa, St. Pat's, and Carleton College, Bishops, R.M.C., Queens and McGill. The schedule provides for five of the team's seven games to be played at home, with all the trimmings, including a band, something new this year. Hockey and basketball leagues are also in operation, but these sports will start later in the season. All sports are co-ordinated by the Men's Athletic Association, with E. Cashman as president.

Throughout the year, the Literary and Debating Society, whose president is R. A. Hennigar, provides at least one evening of activity a week, usually every Wednesday. Inter-class debates, plays, and the like, make up the backbone of their programmes, and their season winds up with the presentation of the Green and Gold Revue which is given its premiere on the evening of the MacDonald Royal in February.

Space prevents a complete listing of all the activities that go on; but the important thing is that they are all being conducted by individuals elected to their particular post by the students themselves, whether it be the Editor of the weekly newspaper or the President of the Dance Committee. And all these are under the ultimate control of the Students' Council, whose President this year is Bill (Red) Ritchie. All these officers of all the societies carry out their duties in spare time; they get no exemption from classes merely because they are student executives, and it is to the credit of the student body in their choice of officers that, almost invariably, the boys and girls who carry out their executive assignments so well also do well in their academic work.

Boom and Bust in Bacon

For 80 years Canada has been exporting bacon. During the period from 1940-49, a total of approximately 4 billion pounds was exported, this figure exceeding the exports for the previous 40 years, according to figures released by Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

During the past four years exports have dropped from 273 million pounds in 1946, to an estimated 60 million this year.

Ontarians Tour Quebec

A group of 25 members from eastern Ontario co-operatives toured co-ops in Quebec on a trip organized and conducted by Percy Gardner, Brockville, eastern Ontario fieldman of United Co-operatives of Ontario, Aug. 27 to Aug. 30.

The tour members were guests of Co-operative Federee of Quebec at the Federee building in Quebec city and visited the co-operative milk processing plant at Granby. This co-operative had sales totalling \$4,500,000 in 1949.

Other co-operatives visited included an abattoir and feed mill in Quebec, a poultry processing and egg grading station at St. Damase, and the St. Pierre Co-operative on the Island of Orleans.

This Canada of Ours

Canada covers about 3,700,000 square miles, which is 39 times the area of the United Kingdom. But less than 300,000 square miles or 180,000,000 acres of this land is being used for farming. About two-thirds of the farm land is in the three Prairie Provinces. Estimates of how much the farming area could be extended vary from 25 to 100 million acres. The remainder of the country consists of forests, mountains, lakes and, in the far north, the barren tundra.

Taking Canada as a whole there are about $4\frac{1}{2}$ persons per square mile, compared with over 500 in the United Kingdom and about 750 in England and Wales. Although less than 10 percent of the country is inhabited, the area of land being farmed per person of the whole population is about sixteen times as great as in the U.K.

Over 20 percent of the population is engaged in farming, compared with only 7 percent of the U.K. The average size of farm in Canada is about 240 acres, of which about 125 acres are under crops, fallow, and rotation hay and pasture. The remainder is mostly woodland or rough grazing.

However, there is a large degree of variation; for example, the average size of farms in Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia is only about 100 acres, compared with about 450 acres in Saskatchewan and Alberta. Again, the average cultivated acreage including rotation hay and pasture is under 30 acres in Nova Scotia, while in Saskatchewan it is about 260 acres. The average acreage per person gainfully employed in agriculture varies from about 40 in the Maritimes to over 300 in the Prairie Provinces.

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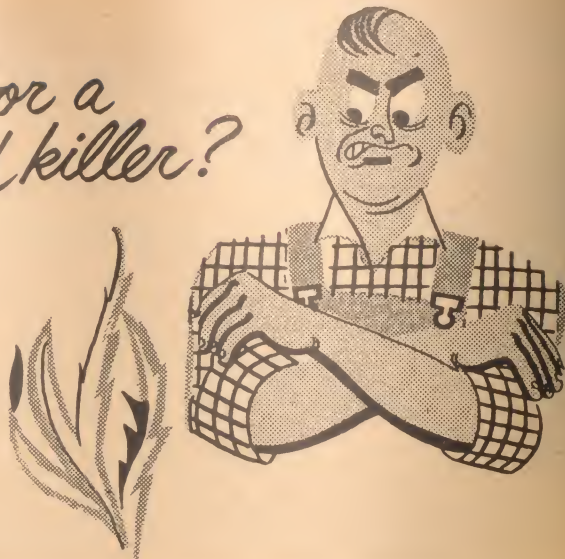
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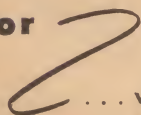
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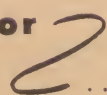
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